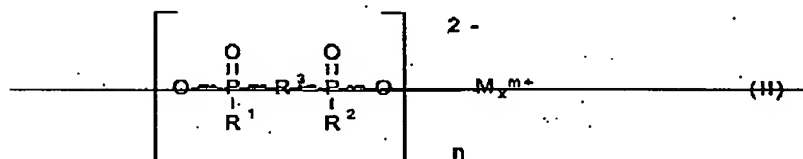
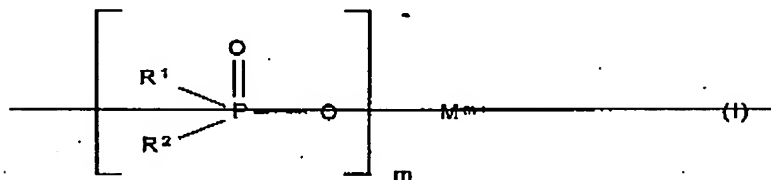


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Amendment to the Specification

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

The invention relates to a novel flame retardant and stabilizer combined, for thermoplastics, which comprises, as component A, from 25 to 99.9% by weight of a phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these as defined in the specification.



where

R^1, R^2 are identical or different and are $\text{C}_4\text{--C}_{10}$ alkyl, linear or branched, and/or aryl;

R^2 is $\text{C}_4\text{--C}_{10}$ alkylene, linear or branched, $\text{C}_6\text{--C}_{10}$ arylene, alkylarylene or arylalkylene;

M is Mg, Ca, Al, Sb, Sn, Ge, Ti, Zn, Fe, Zr, Co, Bi, Sr, Mn, Li, Na, K, and/or a protonated nitrogen base;

m is 1 to 4;

n is 1 to 4;

x is 1 to 4;

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~~and comprises,~~ as component B, from 10 to 75% by weight of a nitrogen-containing synergist or of a phosphorus/nitrogen flame retardant, ~~and comprises,~~ as component C, from 0.1 to 50% by weight of a basic or amphoteric oxide, hydroxide, carbonate, silicate, borate, stannate, mixed oxide/hydroxide, oxide/hydroxide/carbonate, hydroxide/silicate, or hydroxide/borate, or a mixture of these substances, ~~and comprises,~~ as component D, from 0 to 5% by weight of a mixture composed of a phosphonite or of a phosphonite/phosphite mixture, ~~and comprises,~~ as component E, from 0 to 5% by weight of an ester or a salt of montan wax acid, ~~and comprises,~~ as component F, from 0.1 to 5% by weight of an aromatic di- or tricarboxylic ester or aromatic di- or tricarboxamide, ~~the entirety of the components always being 100% by weight.~~